



Commonwealth of Virginia

Office of Governor Terry McAuliffe

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Office of the Governor

Contact: Brian Coy

Email: Brian.Coy@governor.virginia.gov

Department of General Services

Contact: Dena Potter

Phone: (804) 786-0282

Email: Dena.Potter@dgs.virginia.gov

Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy

Contact: Al Christopher

Phone: (804) 692-3216

Email: al.christopher@dmme.virginia.gov

Virginia Clean Cities

Contact: Alleyn Harned

Phone: (540) 568-8896

Email: aharned@hrccc.org

Governor McAuliffe Announces Major Milestone in Transitioning Government Vehicles to Alternative Fuels

*~ 319 public sector Alternative Fuel Vehicles exceeds goal established in
Governor's 2014 Virginia Energy Plan ~*

RICHMOND, VA – Governor Terry McAuliffe today announced that 319 state and local government vehicles have been transitioned to alternative fuel in the Commonwealth. This announcement exceeds the Governor's 300 vehicle goal by the end of the Administration and is a major milestone in the progress toward a low-carbon clean fuel alternatives Virginia. Governor

McAuliffe also awarded Chesterfield County with the Governor's Green Fleet Award for its leadership in the alternative fuels transition by implementing 50 vehicles and five advanced fueling stations that allow state and local vehicles to visit and refuel. Alternative fuel vehicles are identified as methods of reducing greenhouse gases and other pollution and their use over traditional vehicles supports clean air.

"I'm pleased to announce today that the Commonwealth has exceeded our goal of transitioning state and local vehicles to alternative fuels, and we've done so ahead of schedule," **said Governor McAuliffe, speaking at the announcement.** "With our 2014 energy plan, we set out to expand access to alternative fuel vehicles in a way that was cost effective for the Commonwealth and that leveraged best practices from the private sector. These vehicles reduce air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions, cut down on gasoline costs and support our Commonwealth's growing alternative fuels industry, leading to job growth here at home and more sustainable transportation solutions. This is a great step forward and we will continue to work to make Virginia's the cleanest and most innovative vehicle fleet in the nation."

Governor McAuliffe announced the milestone in front of a propane fueling station at the Department of General Services central fleet facility, which also offers a high blend of renewable ethanol fuel and electric charging stations for state and local fleet vehicles. A range of clean fuel fleet operators, technology providers, and a wide diversity of clean fuel fleet vehicles were visible at the event. State and local vehicles that have been transitioned include: light-duty propane vehicles, such as trucks, vans and police interceptors; heavy-duty propane vehicles, such as school buses; compressed natural gas vehicles, including sedans and refuse haulers; and electric sedans.

"Today's announcement marks an important milestone in our efforts to transition state and local vehicles to alternative fuels, and I congratulate Chesterfield County for its leadership," **said Secretary of Commerce and Trade Todd Haymore.** "Working with our public and private sector partners, I look forward to continuing this transition in more state agencies and local governments in the months ahead."

The Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy (DMME) and the Department of General Services (DGS) supported this goal by establishing the public-private contracts that made possible the installation of propane and compressed natural gas (CNG) infrastructure and the purchase of vehicle conversions. These contracts, combined with DGS contracts for new CNG, propane, and electric vehicles, paved the way for state agencies and local public bodies to have easy access to alternative fuel solutions.

"This is important because Virginia produces nearly no oil and has an economic and environmental opportunity to transition to cleaner domestic fuels," **said Alleyn Harned, Executive Director of Virginia Clean Cities.** "Propane and natural gas and electricity are low-cost alternative fuels, often representing cost savings as much as \$1 per gallon"

In 2014, Governor McAuliffe unveiled the Virginia Energy Plan committing to accelerating the development of advanced vehicle technology and the use of alternative fuels for vehicles in the Commonwealth. Advancing the existing Commonwealth Alternative Fuel Program, established in 2012, Governor McAuliffe helped accelerate the development of advanced vehicle technology and the use of alternative fuel vehicles by public bodies, encouraging state agencies and local

governments to advance the first 100 vehicles fueled by natural gas or propane by October 1, 2015. The ultimate goal was to deploy at least 300 vehicles by the end of the Administration. With today's announcement, Virginia exceeded this goal five months ahead of schedule and will continue to promote efforts to transition state and local government vehicles to alternative fuel through the remainder of the administration.

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